WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



Maternal Blessings

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward
Worship Host: Erik Alm
Worship Associate: Beth Schaefer
Music: Jay Steele
Multigenerational Care: Ariel Smith-Iyer and Jordan Jacobs

Sunday, May 10, 2026 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Awakening Curiosity

We are very glad that you are with us today and hope you feel our welcome. If you would like to learn more about us and receive our weekly email newsletter, please send an email to welcome@mpuuc.org. We request your name, email, phone number and address. We'd be happy to answer any questions.

Our Mission Statement:

The foundation of Mission Peak is love. We are a spiritual community of open minds, nurturing growth and healing in ourselves and all people. Together we strive to live compassionately and courageously as we work for a nonviolent, just and sustainable world.



Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values.
Interdependence of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and our place in it.
Pluralism – We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience and theology.
Justice – We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.
Transformation – We adapt to the changing world.
Generosity – We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.
Equity – We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness.

Order of Service

Sunday, May 10, 2026 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

"But kids don't stay with you if you do it right. It's the one job where, the better you are, the more surely you won't be needed in the long run." Barbara Kingsolver, author

"Parenting is about raising and celebrating the child you have, not the child you thought you'd have." Brene Brown

"Raise your words, not voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder." Rumi, poet

"When little people are overwhelmed by big emotions, it's our job to share our calm, not join their chaos." L.R. Knost, author

"It is one thing to show your child the way, and a harder thing to then stand out of it." Robert Breault, author

"It's right to talk about motherhood as a wonderful thing, but we also need to talk about its stresses and strains. It's OK not to find it easy. Asking for help should not be seen as a sign of weakness." Kate Middleton, Duchess of Cambridge

Prelude

Bell — Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship — Beth Schaefer

Chalice Lighting — Zhiyi Zhang

We are Unitarian Universalist *(open arms wide toward each other)*
Who put love at the center of our lives *(hands on heart)*
May this chalice we light today *(light the chalice)*
lead us as we explore, share, and play!
(everyone shakes their bodies or does a silly dance)

Welcome and Announcements — DeAnna Alm

Welcome Song — **Hymn #8** Mother Spirit, Father Spirit, Norbert Capek — Jay Steele

Time for all Ages — There are All Kinds of Ways to be Born

Pulpitorial — Children are Not Condiments — Ariel Smith-iyer

Practice of Generosity (Offering) — Beth Schaefer

Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:

- Use the QR Code in the OOS (Note: 3% surcharge).
- Mail check to MPUUC P.O. Box 545 Fremont, CA 94537-0545
- Drop envelope with check in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
- Pay online at https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/ with credit or debit card (Note: 3% surcharge).

Joys and Concerns Invitation — Rev. Greg Ward

Song of Reflection	Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child Africa American spiritual	Jay Steele
Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Greg Ward
Reflection	How Mothers Protect their Offspring	Ever Green Productions
Anthem	You'll Be In My Heart Phil Collins	Jay Steele
Message	Maternal Blessings	Rev. Greg Ward
Closing Hymn	Hymn #1010 We Give Thanks Wendy Luella Perkins	Jay Steele
Extinguishing the Chalice	#456 We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.	Beth Schaefer
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: May 17– "From the Head; From the Heart"

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Various Musical Artists will provide our music.

This is a service about what we give to – and what we learn from – those whom we love who experience the world from a different mental perspective. MPUUC has long felt called to dedicate a significant portion of our collective ministry to understanding and appreciating the lives of those feeling misunderstood or neglected. We will share stories of what we've given and what we've received in return; what we try to teach and what we inevitably learn.

Go to https://mpuuc.org/zoom/ for order of service and how to connect for all services

Announcements:

In search of mental health family support or peer support resources in the larger Tri-City area? Contact Rev. Barbara Meyers, a mental health educator and peer support provider. Email com_minister@mpuuc.org, or call 510-493-1796.

"**Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month** is observed annually in May, in the US. It recognizes the contributions and influence of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States."